

Porter Square Design Project

City of Cambridge
and
Porter Square Citizen Advisory Committee

*In Association With:
Earth Tech, Inc.
Halvorson Design Partnership*

Community Meeting – February 26, 2003

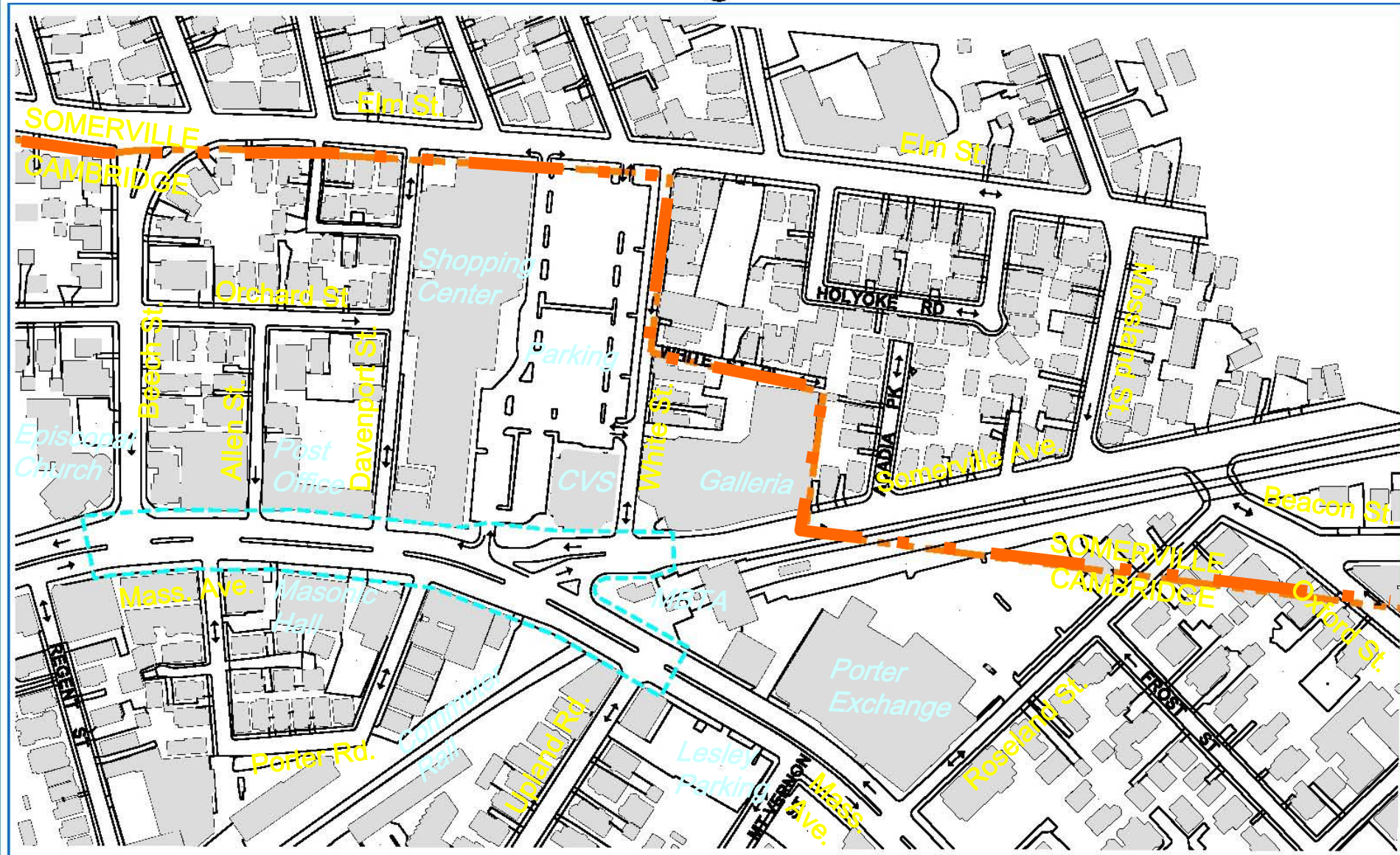
AGENDA

- 1. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND DESIGN PROCESS***
- 2. PROJECT GOALS***
- 3. ADVISORY COMMITTEE PERSPECTIVE***
- 4. REVIEW OF PLAN***
- 5. SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS***
- 6. REPORTING BACK***
- 7. NEXT STEPS***

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- 1. *PROJECT BACKGROUND AND DESIGN PROCESS***
2. *PROJECT GOALS*
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PROJECT AREA



PORTER SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT



BACKGROUND AND PROCESS

- ***PORTER SQUARE CAC FORMED IN 1997***
 - ***14 Members Including Residents and Business Owners***
- ***CAC MET DURING 1997-1998***
- ***CAC RECONVENED IN FALL 2002***
- ***DESIGN THROUGH SUMMER 2003***
- ***CONSTRUCTION IN EARLY 2004***

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GOALS AND CHALLENGES

- *Reduce Vehicular Dominance*
- *Improve Conditions for Pedestrians, Cyclists, Transit Users*
- *Reduce Cut-Through and Shopping Center Traffic on Local Streets*
- *Improve Streetscape – Create Sense of Place*
- *Improve Traffic Safety for All Users*
- *Maintain Traffic Level of Service at or Near Existing Conditions*

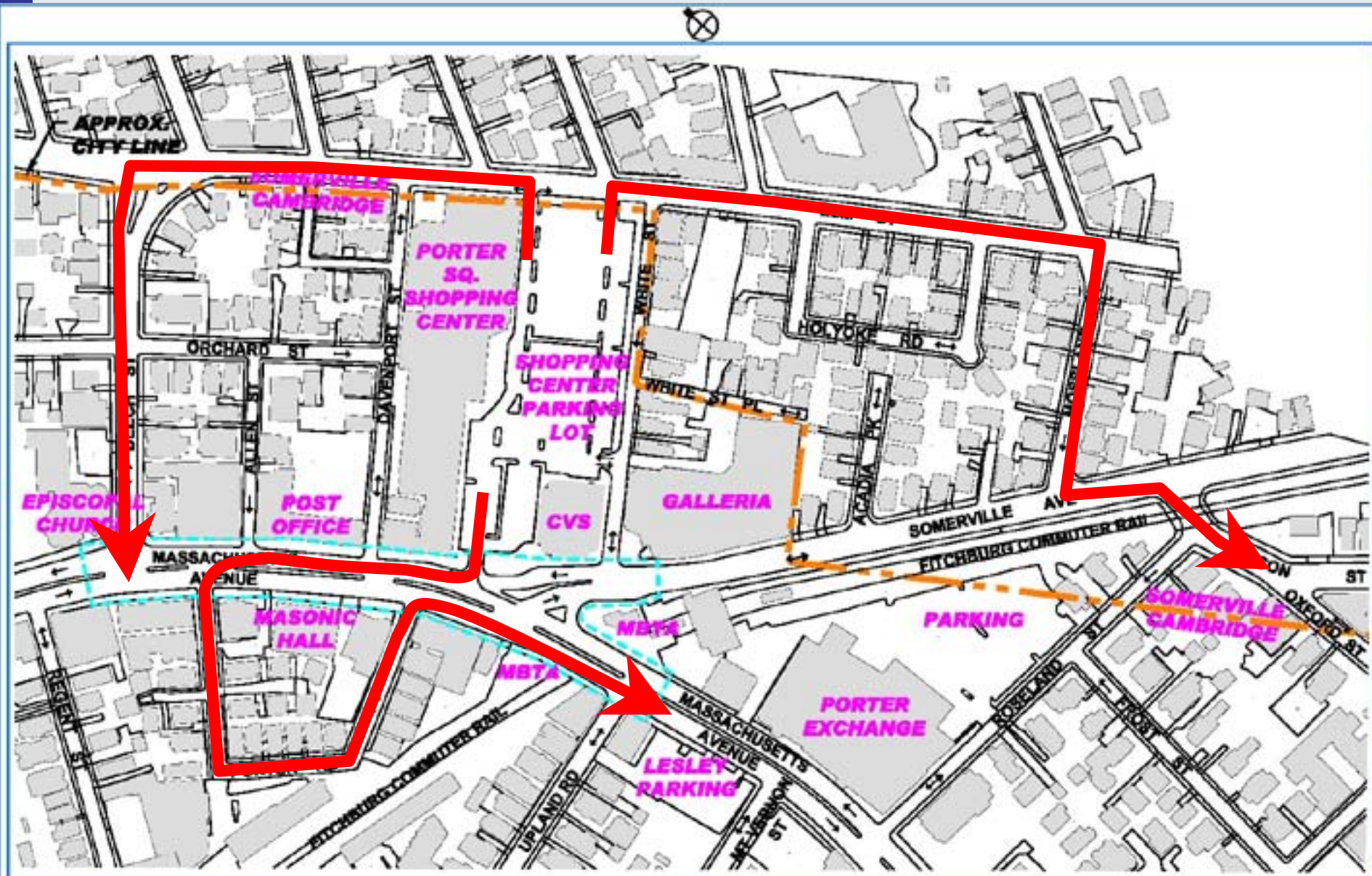
REDUCE VEHICULAR DOMINANCE



IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR PEDS/BIKES/TRANSIT USERS



REDUCE TRAFFIC ON LOCAL STREETS



PORTER SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT



IMPROVE STREETSCAPE / CREATE SENSE OF PLACE



IMPROVE TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR ALL USERS



MAINTAIN TRAFFIC LEVEL-OF-SERVICE AT OR NEAR EXISTING CONDITIONS



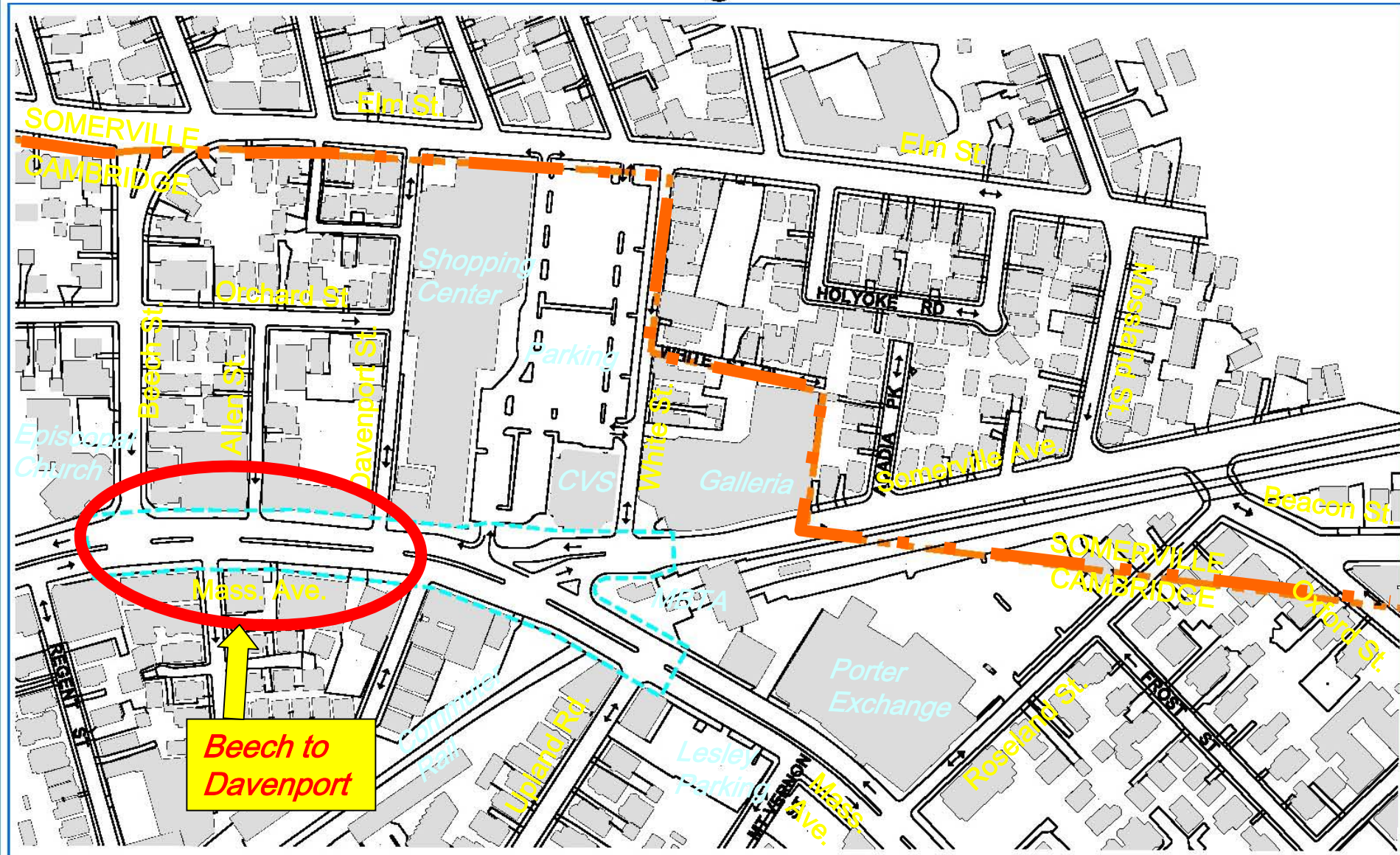
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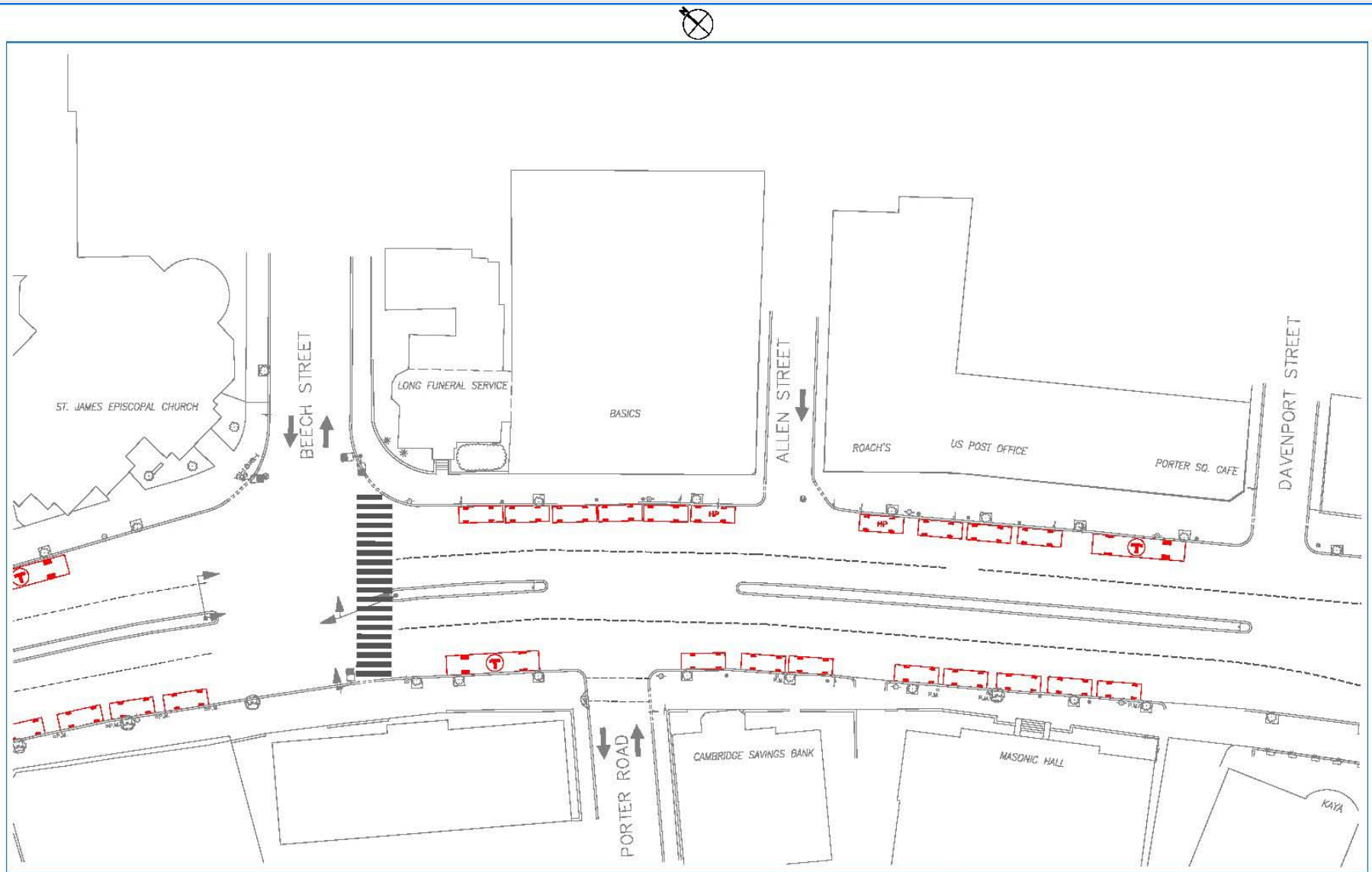
PROJECT AREA



PORTER SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

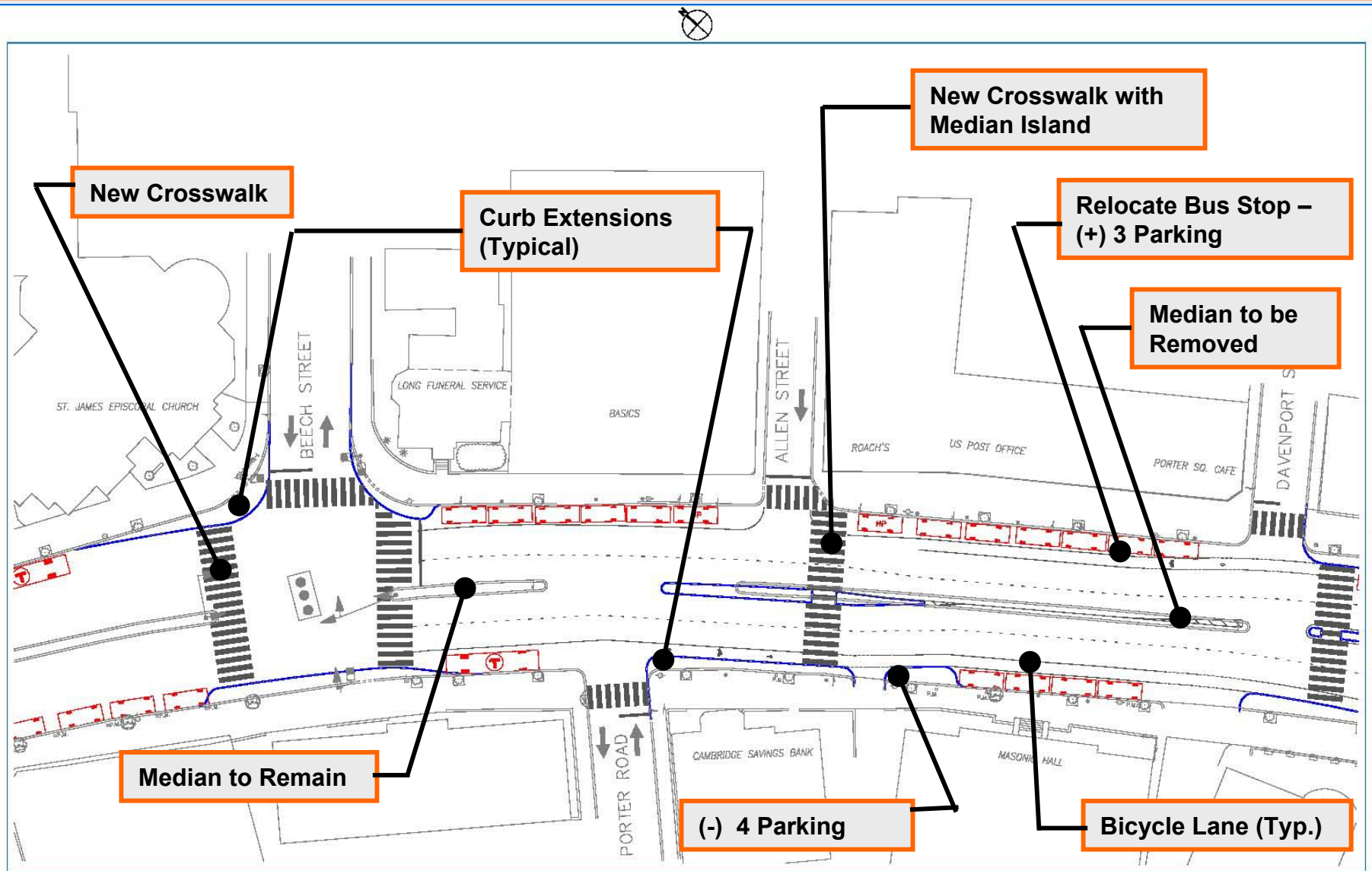


BEECH ST. TO DAVENPORT ST.



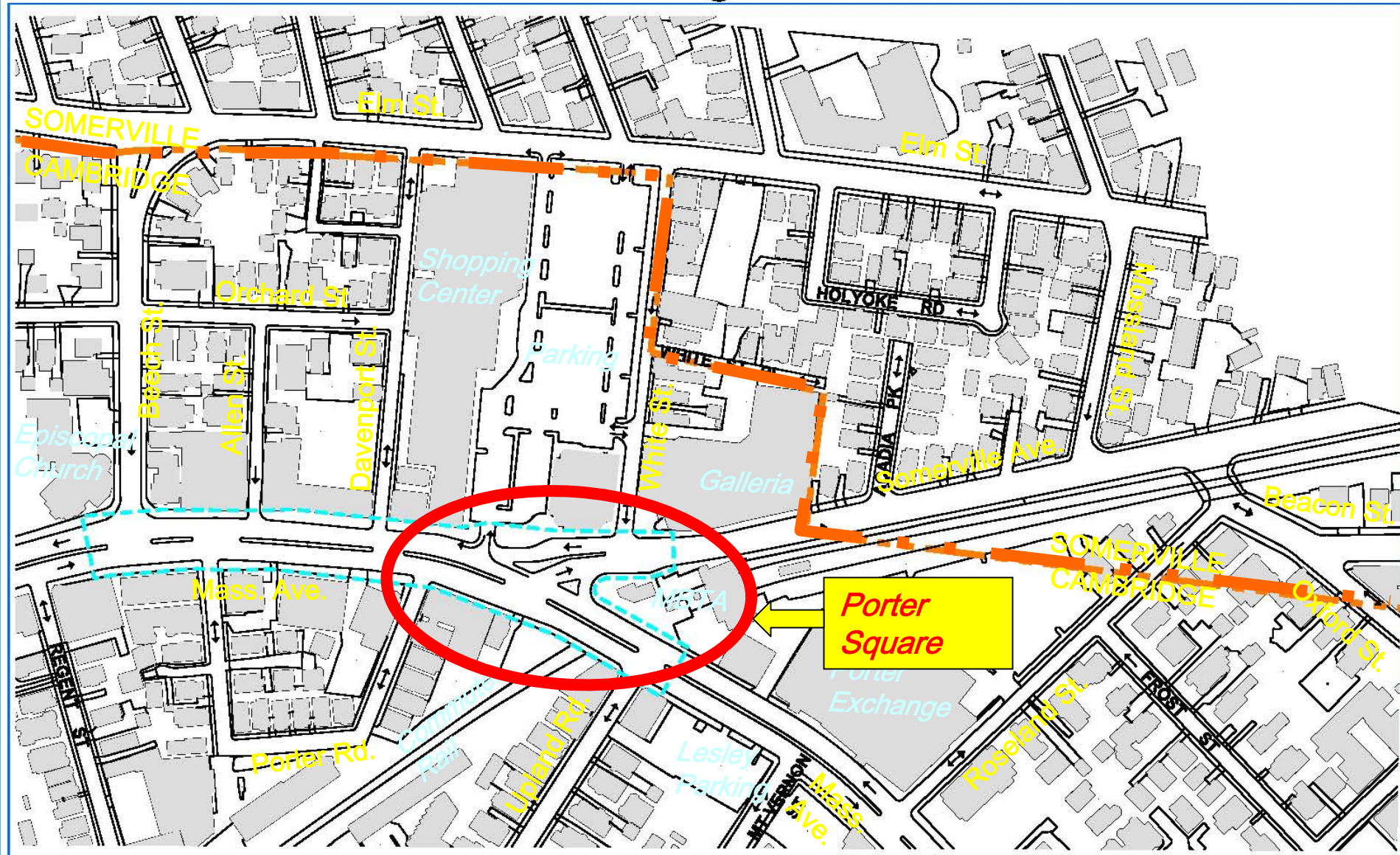
PORTER SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT

BEECH ST. TO DAVENPORT ST.



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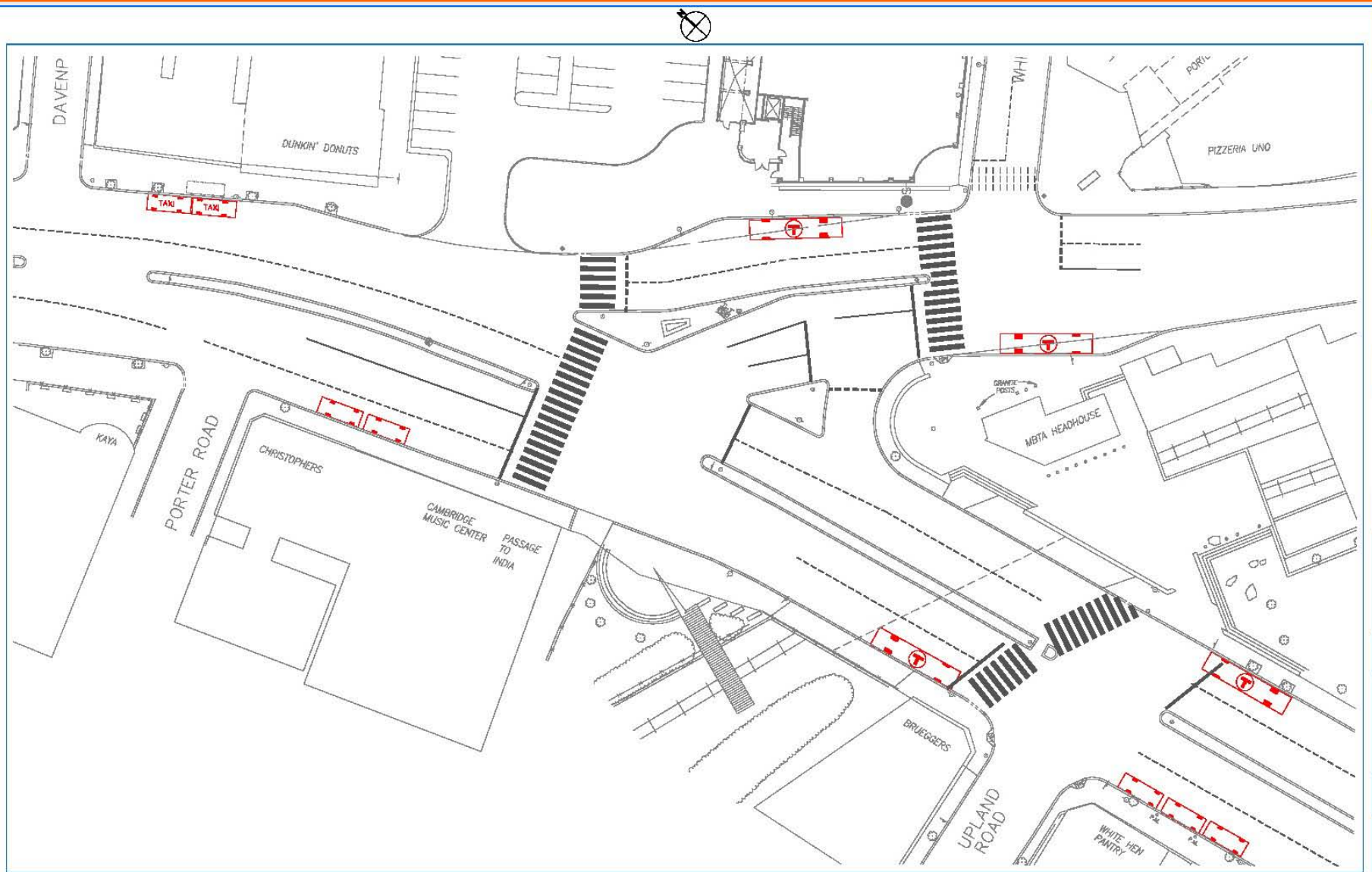
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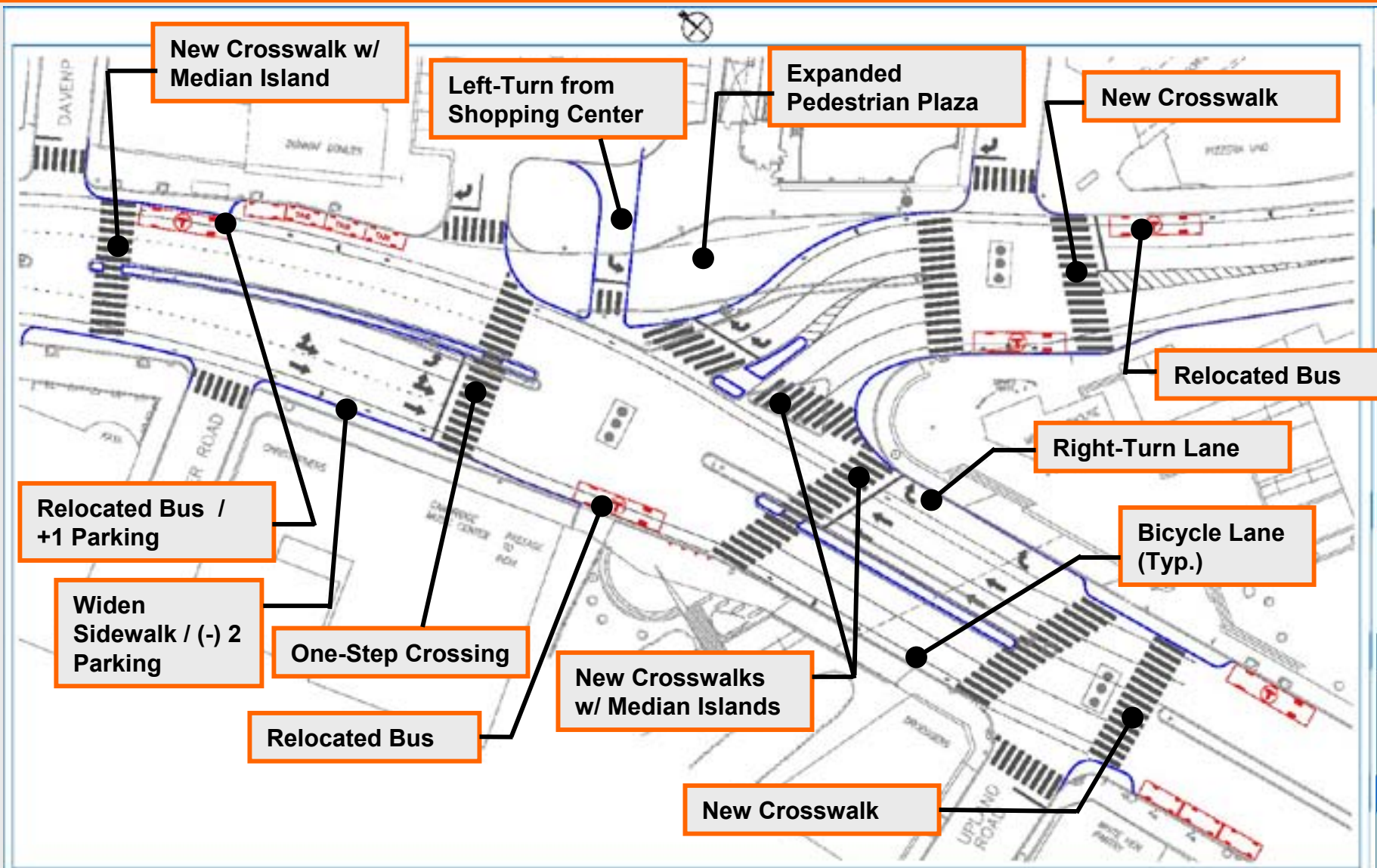
PORTER SQUARE



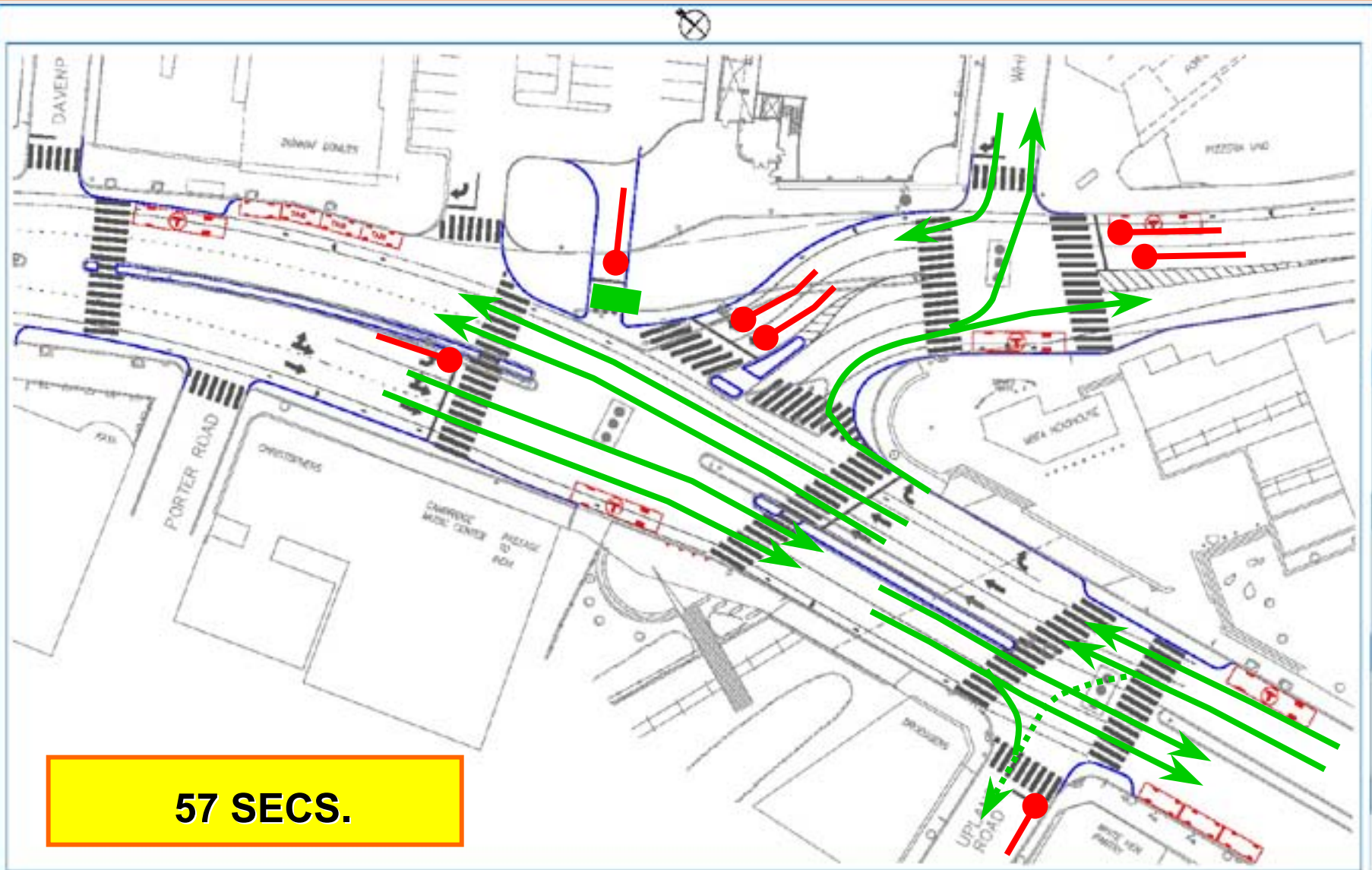
PORTER SQUARE DESIGN PROJECT



PORTER SQUARE

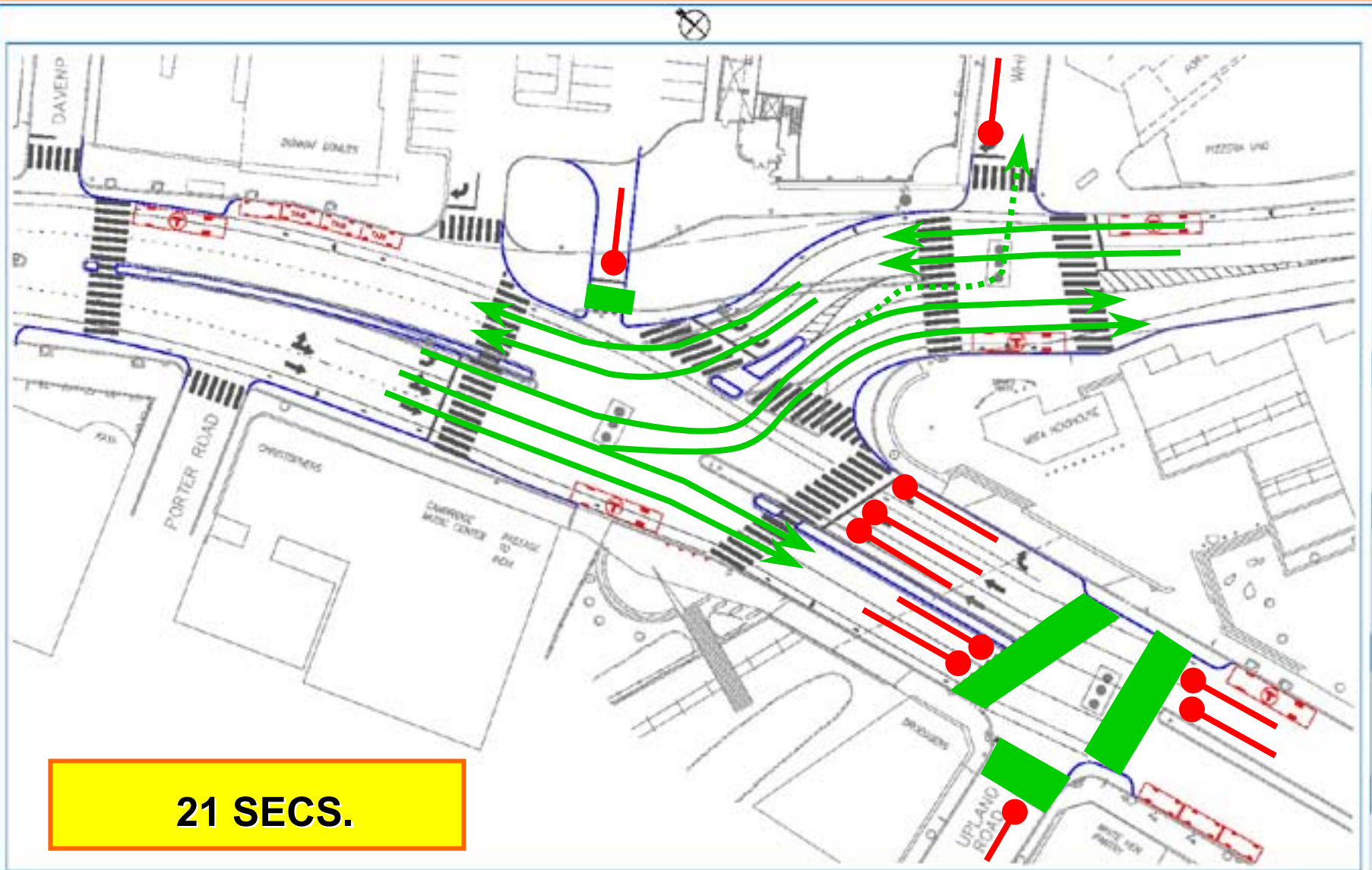


SIGNAL TIMING (A.M. PEAK)



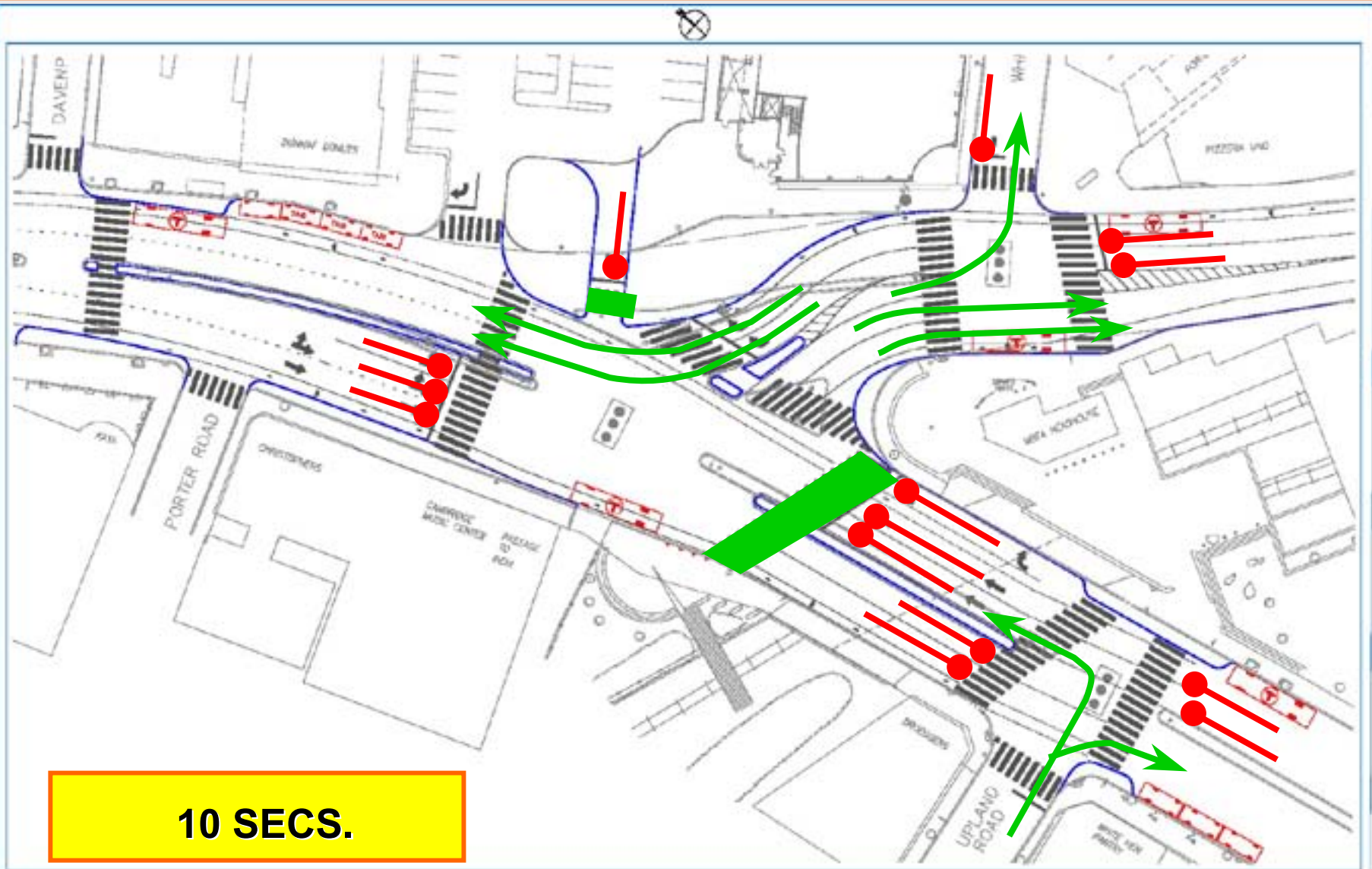
57 SECS.

SIGNAL TIMING (A.M. PEAK)



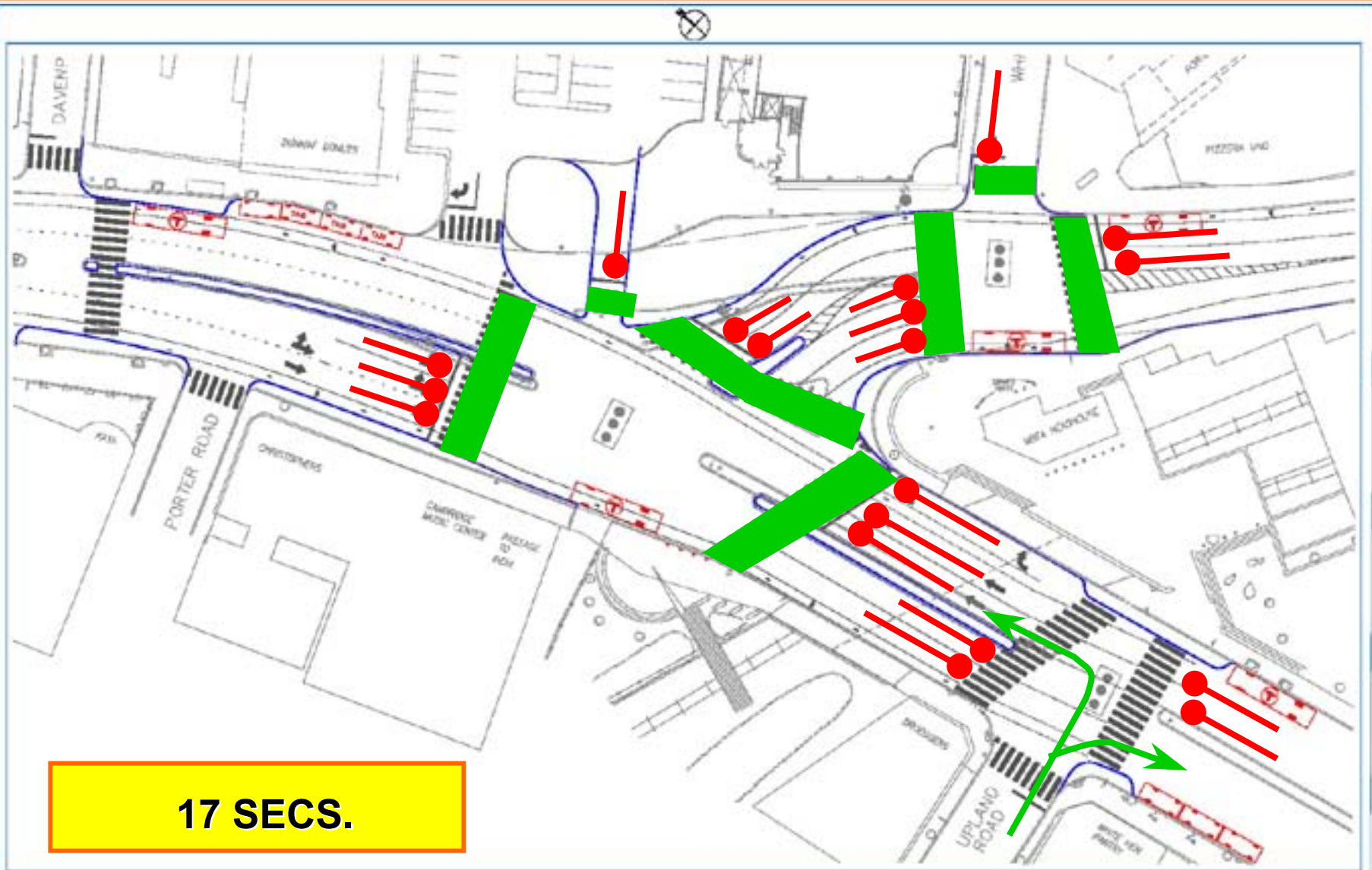
21 SECS.

SIGNAL TIMING (A.M. PEAK)

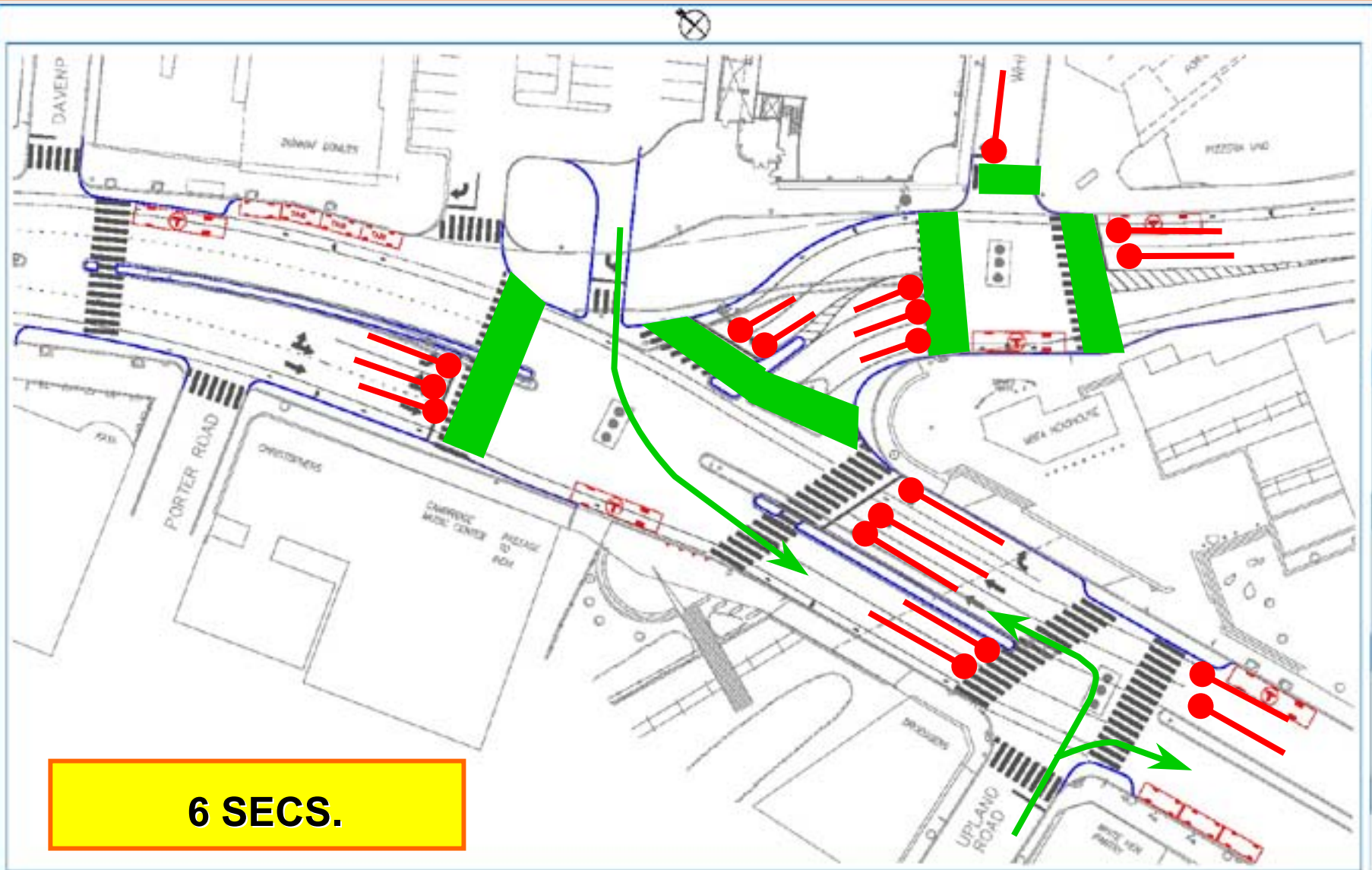


10 SECS.

SIGNAL TIMING (A.M. PEAK)

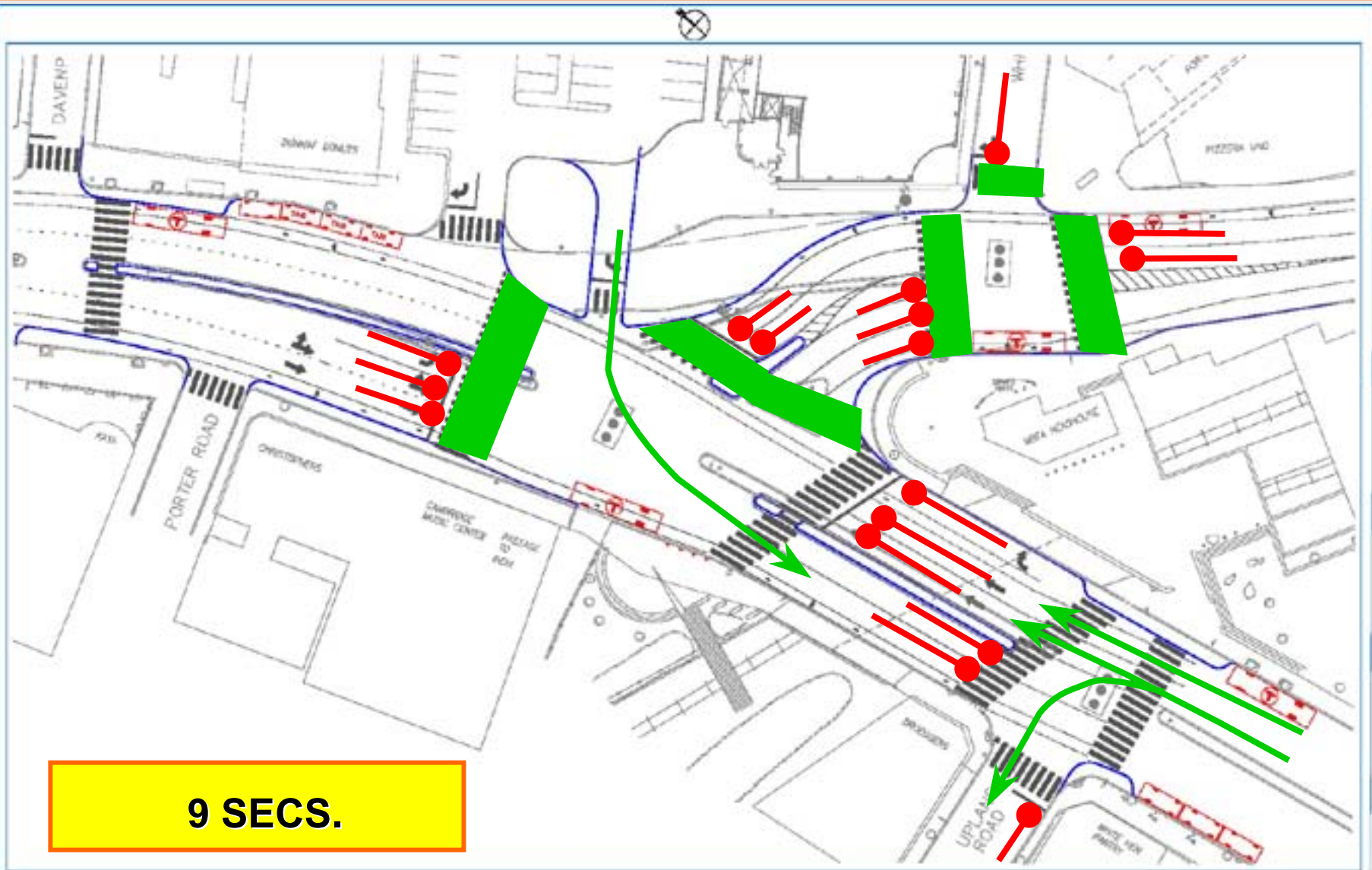


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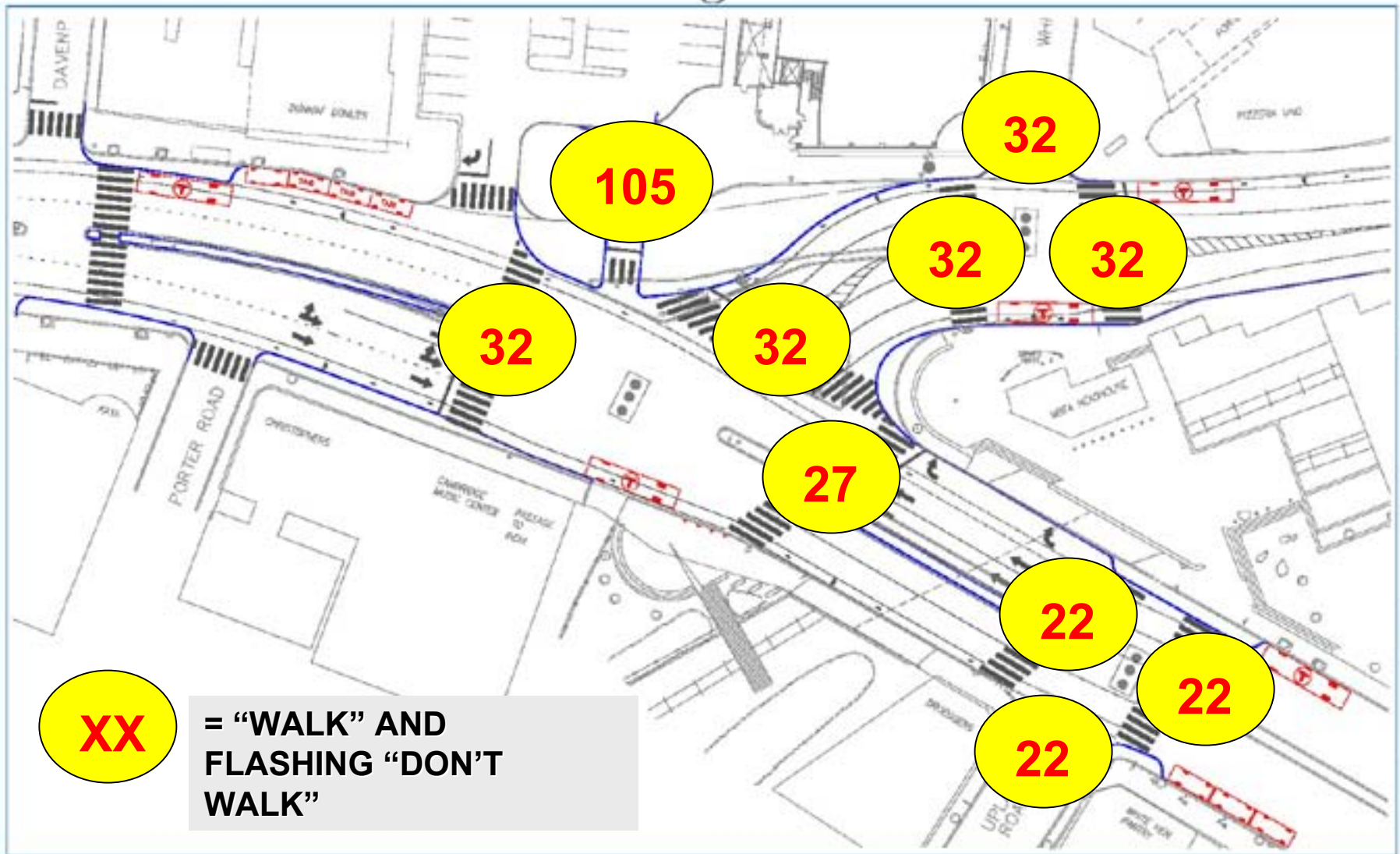
6 SECS.

SIGNAL TIMING (A.M. PEAK)



9 SECS.

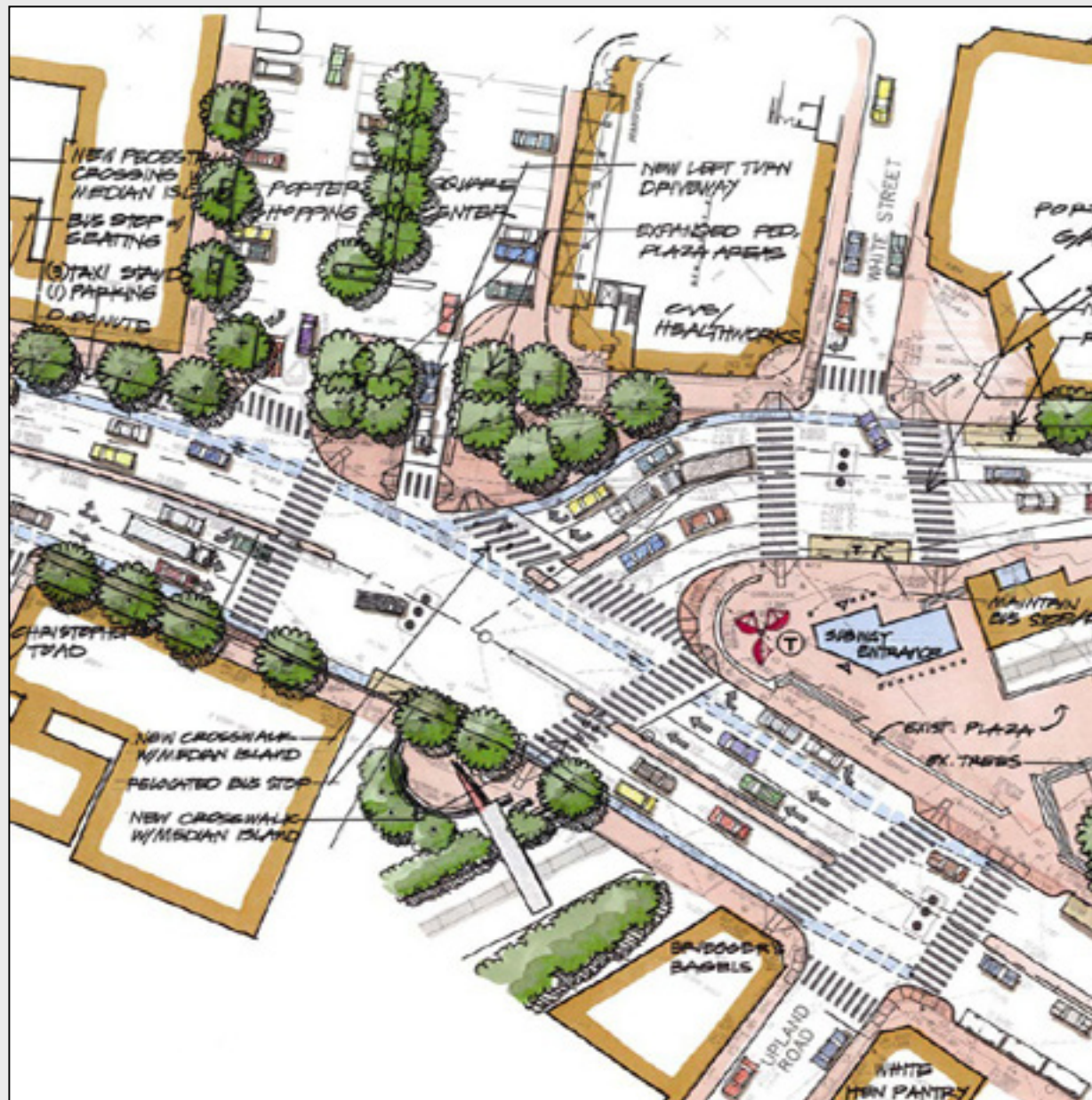
CROSSWALK TIME PER 120-SEC CYCLE



STREETSCAPE AND PLAZA DESIGN



STREETSCAPE AND PLAZA DESIGN

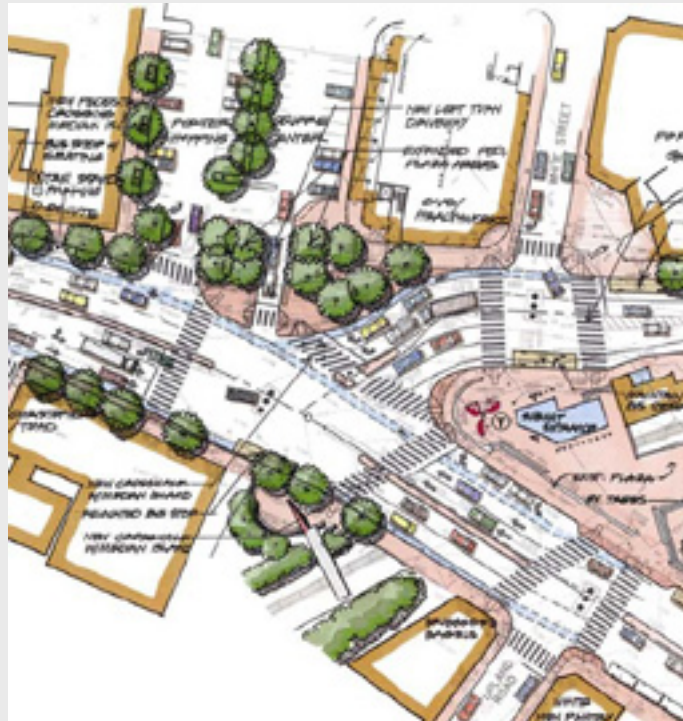


STREETSCAPE AND PLAZA DESIGN



REDUCE VEHICULAR DOMINANCE

- ✓ **REALIGN ROADWAYS TO
REDUCE PAVEMENT AREA AND
CREATE SIGNIFICANT NEW
PEDESTRIAN SPACE**



IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR PEDS/BIKES/TRANSIT USERS

- ✓ ***ADD 7 NEW CROSSWALKS***
- ✓ ***LONGER CROSSING
TIMES / ELIMINATE 2-STEP
CROSSINGS***
- ✓ ***PROVIDE BICYCLE LANES***
- ✓ ***COORDINATE BUS STOPS /
CROSSWALK LOCATIONS***



REDUCE TRAFFIC ON LOCAL STREETS

✓ ***PROVIDE BETTER BALANCE
OF VEHICLES EXITING THE
SHOPPING CENTER***



IMPROVE STREETSCAPE / CREATE SENSE OF PLACE

- ✓ ***UPGRADE PLANTINGS, SIDEWALKS, LIGHTING***
- ✓ ***INCORPORATE ARTWORK INTO PLAZA***
- ✓ ***ESTABLISH COMMON DESIGN ELEMENTS***



MAINTAIN TRAFFIC LOS AT OR NEAR EXISTING

- ✓ ***INCREASED DELAY IN MORNING PEAK AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS***
- ✓ ***IMPACTS ARE WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS FOR URBAN AREA SUCH AS PORTER SQUARE***
- ✓ ***DECREASED DELAY AT UNSIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS***



COMPARISON OF EXISTING VS. PROPOSED

| | <u>Existing</u> | <u>Proposed</u> |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| # OF CROSSWALKS IN PROJECT AREA: | 4 | 11 |
| % PEDESTRIAN PHASE IN PORTER SQ. SIGNAL CYCLE: | 18% | 26% |
| # OF LEGAL TURNS FROM SHOPPING CTR. TO MASS AVE SB: | 0 | Up to 150 per hour |
| # OF PARKING SPACES IN PROJECT AREA: | 20 | 18 |

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS



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